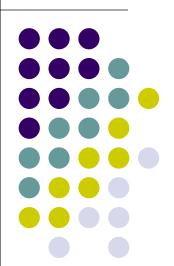
Seattle Youth Committee

Proposal to Seattle City Council September 14, 2010



Seattle Youth for Environmental Change



- Led by five students from Garfield High School YMCA Earth Service Corps (GHS YESC)
- Facebook group of 98 Seattle students
 - 7 high schools
 - 20+ colleges and universities
- 62 surveys completed by young people
- Met with 20+ students in focus groups

Why Young People?

- Influence peers, parents
- Still forming habits (i.e. choosing transportation, food sources)
- Underrepresented demographic in community environmental decisions
- Potential significant carbon reduction

Recommendation Agenda

- Transportation
- Food
- Waste Reduction
- Education









Transportation

Short term:

- Increase 2-hour parking zones near schools
- Require paid parking passes
- Implement no idling policies + signage
- Continue programs to encourage alternatives to driving

Mid term:

- Increase parking pass rates
- Develop a plan to increase bicycling to school

Long term:

- Create and increase bike lanes near schools
- Increase Metro bus frequency during school start/end times



Existing Programs





- Safe Routes to Schools
- Major Taylor Project (Cascade Bicycle Club Education Foundation)
- Walk Bike Ride
 - Advertise to students





Food

- Local, nutritious cafeteria food in schools
 - Existing program: Farm to School (WA State)
- Organic gardens, community and schools
- Stock vending machines with healthy choices
 - Community centers
 - Schools
- Implement culinary classes







Waste Reduction



- Short term:
 - Waste reduction grants through Seattle Public Utilities
 - Restore funding from \$20,000 to \$100,000
- Mid term:
 - Provide training to students and teachers
- Long term:
 - Create a program training students to execute waste audits

Education



Short term:

- Implement waste reduction education in teacher trainings
- Increase hands-on experiences in childhood education (i.e. gardening, composting, worm bins)

Mid term:

- Start environmental science classes in two Seattle public high schools each year
- Motivational conferences/symposia for middle/high school students
- September "Green Fair" for students and families

Education, cont'd



- Long term:
 - Environmental sciences classes in all Seattle public high schools
 - Introduce alternative energy classes
 - Increase environmentally-focused field trips
 - Environmental education as a graduation requirement
 - Service learning component